

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method comprising:

identifying images in an online version of an offline document that are not in an online document that was used to produce the offline document, wherein the images include a combination of one or more text segments and one or more editing

10 instructions; and

generating a subsequent version of the online document by executing each of the one or more editing instructions and inserting each of the one or more text segments.

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2. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more editing instructions are selected from the group consisting of delete, insert, move, capitalize, change font, subscript, superscript, and combinations thereof.

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3. The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more text segments are selected from the group consisting of alphabetic characters, numbers, symbols, words, sentences, paragraphs, and combinations thereof.

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4. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying the location of the images by performing a character-by-character comparison of the online version of the offline document with the online document.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising setting anchor points in the online document at the locations of the images.

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6. The method of claim 5, further comprising associating the images with the respective anchor points.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising storing the subsequent version of the online document in a redline format.

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8. The method of claim 1, further comprising identifying the one or more editing instructions from a predetermined set of editing symbols.

5 9. A method comprising:

interpreting an online version of a first text image to identify and locate one or more text segments and one or more editing instructions selected from a predetermined set of editing symbols; and

10 executing the one or more editing instructions at the identified locations to modify the one or more text segments.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:

15 creating the first text image by scanning an offline document that has been marked with the one or more editing instructions.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:

preparing an online document incorporating the one or more text segments as modified by the one or more instructions.

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The method of claim 10, further comprising:

generating the offline document by printing an online document.

25 13. A method comprising:

identifying inscribed images in an online version of an offline document that are not in an online document that was used to produce the offline document, wherein the inscribed images include a combination of one or more text segments and one or more editing instructions; and

30 generating a subsequent version of the online document by executing each of the one or more editing instructions and inserting each of the one or more text segments.

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14. A method comprising:

printing an online document to generate an offline document;

5 inscribing the offline document with one or more editing instructions selected from a predetermined set of editing symbols;

 scanning the inscribed offline document to create an online version of the inscribed offline document;

 identifying and locating the one or more editing instructions in the online
10 version of the inscribed offline document;

 executing the one or more editing instructions at the identified locations to form a subsequent online document.

15. A system for producing documents comprising:

15 a processor;

 a memory coupled to the processor;

 a computer readable medium coupled to the processor containing instructions
for:

 identifying images in an online version of an offline document that are not in
20 an online document that was used to produce the offline document, wherein the images include a combination of one or more text segments and one or more editing instructions; and

 generating a subsequent version of the online document, by executing each of the one or more editing instructions and inserting each of the one or more text
25 segments.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the one or more editing instructions are selected from the group consisting of delete, insert, move, capitalize, change font, subscript, superscript, and combinations thereof.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the one or more text segments are selected from the group consisting of alphabetic characters, numbers, symbols, words,

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sentences, paragraphs, and combinations thereof.

18. The system of claim 15, further comprising:

instructions for identifying the location of the images including comparing
5 means for performing a character-by-character comparison of the online version of the
offline document with the online document.

19. The system of claim 18, further comprising instructions for setting anchor
points in the online document at the locations of the identified images.

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20. The system of claim 19, further comprising instructions for associating the
images with the respective anchor points.

21. The system of claim 20, further comprising instructions for storing the
15 subsequent version of the online document in a redline format.

22. The system of claim 15, further comprising instructions for identifying the one
or more editing instructions from a predetermined set of editing symbols.

20 23. A computer readable medium containing executable program instructions for
performing a method comprising:

identifying images in an online version of an offline document that are not in
an online document that was used to produce the offline document, wherein the
images include a combination of one or more text segments and one or more editing
25 instructions; and

generating a subsequent version of the online document, by executing each of
the one or more editing instructions and inserting each of the one or more text
segments.

30 24. The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the one or more editing
instructions are selected from the group consisting of delete, insert, move, capitalize,
change font, subscript, superscript, and combinations thereof.

25. The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein the one or more text

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segments are selected from the group consisting of alphabetic characters, numbers, symbols, words, sentences, paragraphs, and combinations thereof.

26. The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising identifying
5 the location of the images, by performing a character-by-character comparison of the online version of the offline document with the online document.

27. The computer readable medium of claim 26, further comprising setting anchor
10 points in the online document at the locations of the identified images.

28. The computer readable medium of claim 27, further comprising associating
the images with the respective anchor points.

29. The computer readable medium of claim 28, further comprising storing the
15 subsequent version of the online document in a redline format.

30. The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising identifying
the one or more editing instructions from a predetermined set of editing symbols.

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